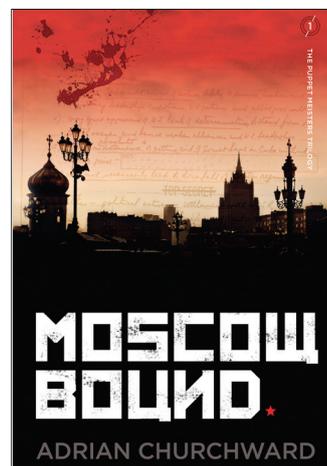


MOSCOW BOUND ★

ADRIAN CHURCHWARD



The room was a stubborn relic of the Soviet era under Brezhnev when utility and stagnation were the order of the day. It was worse than a prison cell; there was no toilet. Yakovlev had confiscated Scott's cellphone and left him without food or drink, the radiators were ice cold and he was still wearing the lightweight suit he'd worn during the flight. He hadn't seen his suitcase since it had been loaded onto the luggage carousel at the check-in desk in London. Despite such privations, he remained calm. Nobody was going to kill him or lock him up and throw away the key.

Ekaterina Romanova, the estranged wife of Russia's wealthiest oligarch Konstantin Gravchenko, asks Scott Mitchell, an idealistic young English human rights lawyer who is being intimidated by the authorities, to find the father she's never met. She believes he's been languishing for decades without trial in the Gulag system. Meanwhile, General Pravda of military intelligence, though an advocate of transparency, is determined to protect a covert operation that he's been running for years.

General Pravda hinders Ekaterina and Scott at every turn and lawyer and client are forced to go on the run for a murder they didn't commit. As they descend into the Hades that is the world of international realpolitik Scott is compelled to reconsider his own values, and Pravda's life's work disintegrates, when Scott uncovers a 50 year-old Cold War secret, which both the Russian and US governments are still trying to hide from the public domain.

Moscow Bound is the first book in The Puppet Masters trilogy, dealing with state abuse of power.

About the Author

Between 1984 and 1998 Adrian Churchward lived and worked in Moscow, Budapest and Prague as an East – West trade lawyer, representing British, American and German corporations. During this period he became proficient in translating Russian commercial and legal texts into English.

He was one of the few Western lawyers working in the day-to-day arena of President Gorbachev's liberalisation process of perestroika and glasnost, and which ultimately resulted in the collapse of communism and disintegration of the Soviet Union. In 1991, he witnessed the abortive coup against Gorbachev and in 1993, he was again present in Moscow when Yeltsin ordered the shelling of the Russian parliament building, aka the "The Russian White House". He now lives in London, has two daughters, three grandsons and a cat that eats furniture.



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